

# **EXHIBIT 8**

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
AUSTIN DIVISION

In re:

ALEXANDER E. JONES

Debtor.

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§  
§  
§  
§

CASE NO. 22-60043  
SDTX (Lopez)

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NEIL HESLIN and SCARLETT LEWIS  
Plaintiffs

§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§

VS.

ADVERSARY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ALEX E. JONES and FREE SPEECH  
SYSTEMS, LLC  
Defendants

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

**TO THE HONORABLE  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:**

Christopher R. Murray, the chapter 7 trustee (“Trustee”) appointed for the bankruptcy estate of Alexander E. Jones (“Estate”), files this Notice of Removal of the state court action styled *Neil Heslin and Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones and Free Speech Systems, LLC*, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, pending in the 261<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas (the “State Court Action”).

**I. Procedural Background and Nature of Suit**

1. On April 16, 2018, Neil Heslin and Scarlett Lewis (“Plaintiffs”) filed their Original Petition against Alex E. Jones and Free Speech Systems, LLC (“Defendants”), initiating the State Court Action.

2. On December 2, 2022, Alexander E. Jones (“Debtor”) filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code (“Bankruptcy Code”)[Dkt. 1], commencing the bankruptcy case captioned *In re Alexander E. Jones*, Case No. 22-33553, pending

before the United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas, Houston Division (Hon. Christopher M. Lopez, presiding) (“Jones Bankruptcy Case”).

3. On June 14, 2024 (“Conversion Date”), the Bankruptcy Court entered an Order Converting Debtor’s Chapter 11 Case to a Case Under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code (“Conversion Order”)[Dkt. 708].

4. On June 14, 2024, the Trustee was appointed to serve as the chapter 7 trustee in the Jones Bankruptcy Case. [Dkt. 709].

5. The Debtor’s 100% membership interest in Free Speech Systems, LLC (“FSS”), including rights under the membership agreement of FSS, constitutes non-exempt property under applicable non-bankruptcy law and is property of the Estate in the Jones Bankruptcy Case pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §541.

6. On July 29, 2022, FSS filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 Subchapter V of the Bankruptcy Code, initiating Case No. 22-60043 pending before the United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas, Houston Division (Hon. Christopher M. Lopez, presiding)(the “FSS Bankruptcy Case”) [Dkt. 1].

7. On June 21, 2024, the Bankruptcy Court entered an Order Dismissing Case (“Dismissal Order”)[Dkt. 956], effectuating a dismissal of the FSS Bankruptcy Case, subject to certain conditions outlined in the Dismissal Order and the retention of certain related matters.

8. Also on June 21, 2024, in the State Court Action, Plaintiffs’ filed Plaintiffs’ Application for Turnover Order.

9. Also on June 21, 2024, in the “A” case related to the State Court Action, Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs’ Application for Post-Judgment Writ of Garnishment. With respect to the Plaintiff’s Application for Post-Judgment Writ of Garnishment, the garnishee is Cadence Bank.

## II. Basis for Removal

10. This Notice of Removal is filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1452, Bankruptcy Rule 9027, and Local Bankruptcy Rule 9027.

11. The State Court Action was initiated prior to the commencement of the Jones Bankruptcy Case. This Notice of Removal has been timely filed pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a)(2).

12. Venue in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1409. The Trustee intends to file a separate motion to transfer this matter to the United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas, which has jurisdiction over the Jones Bankruptcy Case as well as certain matters in the FSS Bankruptcy Case.

13. Cases subject to jurisdiction are removable under the authority of 28 U.S.C. § 1452(a) (“A party may remove any claim or cause of action...to the district court for the district where such civil action is pending, if such district court has jurisdiction of such claim or cause of action under section 1334 of this title”). The State Court Action is a civil action, other than a proceeding before the United States Tax Court. The State Court Action is not a civil action by a government unit to enforce such government unit’s police or regulatory power.

14. This Court has jurisdiction over this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334(b) (federal district courts have “original jurisdiction of all civil proceedings...arising in or related to cases under title 11”). The State Court Action “arises in” or, alternatively, is “related to” a Title 11 case, *i.e.* the Jones Bankruptcy Case and the FSS Bankruptcy Case. In this circuit, “related to” proceedings include any case whose outcome “could *conceivably* have any effect on the administration of the estate.” *In re Wood*, 825 F.2d 90, 93 (5th Cir. 1987) (emphasis added); *In re Baudoin*, 981 F.2d 736, 740 (5th Cir. 1993).

15. The outcome of the State Court Action will have a direct impact on property of the Estate in the Jones Bankruptcy Case as well as administration the Estate. Additionally, the outcome of the State Court Action will have a direct impact on those matters retained by the Bankruptcy Court in the FSS Bankruptcy Case under the Dismissal Order. Accordingly, the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1334(b) are satisfied and removal is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1452(a).

### **III. Core or Non-Core Bankruptcy Jurisdiction**

16. This action involves the administration of the Debtor's estate and is a proceeding affecting the adjustment of the debtor-creditor relationship; it is, therefore, a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A)(B)(C)(E)(G)(M) and (O). The claims and causes of action in the State Court Action have a clear and direct impact on the interests and property of the Debtor's estate under 11 U.S.C. § 541.

17. Upon removal of the State Court Action, the Trustee consents to the entry of final orders or judgment by the bankruptcy judge in the bankruptcy court.

### **IV. Parties and Notice**

18. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452(a), Federal Bankruptcy Rule 9027(b), and Local Rule 9027-1, all adverse parties are being provided with a copy of this Notice of Removal and a copy of this Notice of Removal is being filed with the clerk of the 261<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas.

19. The names and addresses of the parties and counsel in the State Court Action, who have or will be served with this Notice of Removal are as follows:

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<b>COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFFS</b>	<b>KASTER LYNCH FARRAR &amp; BALL LLP</b> Mark D. Bankston Willim R. Ogden 1117 Herkimer Houston, Texas 77008	<b>LAWSON &amp; MOSHENBERG, PLLC</b> Avi Moshenberg 801 Travis St., Suite 2101 #38 Houston, Texas 77002
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<b>COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS</b>	<b>THE REYNAL LAW FIRM PC</b> Federico Andino Reynal 917 Franklin St., Fl. 6 Houston, Texas 77002  <b>CROWE &amp; DUNLEVY PC</b> Vickie L. Driver 2525 McKinnon St. Suite 425 Dallas, Tx 75201	<b>MARTIN DISIERE JEFFERSON &amp; WISDOM</b> Christopher W. Martin John Andrew Laboon 808 Travis St. Suite 1100 Houston, Texas 77002
<b>GARNISHEE</b>	<b>CADENCE BANK</b> c/o Registered Agent CT Corporation System 1999 Bryan St. Suite 900, Dallas, Texas 75201	

## V. Process and Pleadings

20. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a)(1) and Local Bankruptcy Rule 9027-1(b), true and correct copies of all process and pleadings filed in the State Court Action (as set forth in the attached Exhibit “1”) will be filed upon removal.

21. In the State Court Action, all original parties have been served with summons. It is unclear whether Cadence Bank (the intended garnishee) has been served with a copy of Plaintiffs’ Application for Writ of Garnishment.

22. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9027(c), the Debtor will promptly file a notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal in the State Court Action.

WHEREFORE, the Debtor notifies the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas, Austin Division, that the State Court Action is hereby removed in its entirety to this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452(a) and Bankruptcy Rule 9027.

Dated: June 24, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Erin E. Jones  
Erin Elizabeth Jones  
Texas Bar No. 24032478  
**JONES MURRAY LLP**  
602 Sawyer, Suite 400  
Houston, TX 77007  
Telephone: 832-529-1999  
Email: erin@jonesmurray.com

**AND**

By: /s/ Joshua W. Wolfshohl  
Joshua W. Wolfshohl  
State Bar No. 24038592  
**Porter Hedges LLP**  
1000 Main Street, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Houston, Texas 77002  
(713) 226-6000  
(713) 228-1331 (fax)

**COUNSEL FOR CHRISTOPHER R. MURRAY,  
TRUSTEE**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on June 24, 2024, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice was served via ECF/  
PACER to all parties registered to receive such service and via first class mail to the following:

<b>COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFFS</b>	<b>KASTER LYNCH FARRAR &amp; BALL LLP</b> Mark D. Bankston Willim R. Ogden 1117 Herkimer Houston, Texas 77008	<b>LAWSON &amp; MOSHENBERG, PLLC</b> Avi Moshenberg 801 Travis St., Suite 2101 #38 Houston, Texas 77002
<hr/>		
<b>COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS</b>	<b>THE REYNAL LAW FIRM PC</b> Federico Andino Reynal 917 Franklin St., Fl. 6 Houston, Texas 77002  <b>CROWE &amp; DUNLEVY PC</b> Vickie L. Driver 2525 McKinnon St. Suite 425 Dallas, Tx 75201	<b>MARTIN DISIERE JEFFERSON &amp; WISDOM</b> Christopher W. Martin John Andrew Laboon 808 Travis St. Suite 1100 Houston, Texas 77002
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<b>GARNISHEE</b>	<b>CADENCE BANK</b> c/o Registered Agent CT Corporation System 1999 Bryan St. Suite 900, Dallas, Texas 75201	

/s/ Erin E. Jones



**261st District Court****Case Summary****Case No. D-1-GN-18-001835****HESLIN V JONES**§  
§Location: **261st District Court**Filed on: **04/16/2018**


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**Case Information**


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Case Type: Defamation

Case Status: **01/12/2023 Closed****Statistical Closures**

04/18/2022 Transfer - CV

01/12/2023 Final Judgment - CV

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**Assignment Information**


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**Current Case Assignment**

Case Number D-1-GN-18-001835

Court 261st District Court

Date Assigned 04/16/2018

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**Party Information**


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**Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL****Bankston, Mark DuQuesnay**  
***Retained*****Moshenberg, Avishay**  
***Retained*****Akers, Cordt Cullen**  
***Retained*****Ball, Wesley Todd**  
***Retained*****SWAFFORD, ROBERT RALPH**  
***Retained***

**LEWIS, SCARLETT****Bankston, Mark DuQuesnay**  
***Retained*****Akers, Cordt Cullen**  
***Retained*****Defendant FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS LLC****REYNAL, FEDERICO ANDINO**  
***Retained*****Martin, Christopher W.**  
***Retained***  
**Laboon, John Andrew**  
***Retained*****JONES, ALEX E****REYNAL, FEDERICO ANDINO**  
***Retained*****Martin, Christopher W.**  
***Retained***  
**Laboon, John Andrew**  
***Retained***  
**Driver, Vickie L**  
***Retained***

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**Case Events**

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04/16/2018 ASM:GN CIVIL PETITION  
*Event Code: 600 Adjmt Amount: 307.00*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

04/16/2018  
ORIGINAL PETITION/APPLICATION  
*PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOUSRE Event Code: 5050*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

04/16/2018 NEW:ORIGINAL PETITION/APPL (OCA)  
*Event Code: 4500*

04/23/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*LETTER REQUESTING ISSUANCE (CITATION) Event Code: 5414*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

04/27/2018 ASM:CITATION ISSUE  
*Event Code: 702 Adjmt Amount: 32.00*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

06/18/2018 ORIGINAL ANSWER/WAIVER  
*DEFENDANTS' ORIGINAL ANSWER Event Code: 5150*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

06/27/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*VACATION LETTER Event Code: 5414*

06/28/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*VACATION LETTER Event Code: 5414*

06/29/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*VACATION LETTER Event Code: 5414*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

06/29/2018 NTC:ATTORNEY/COUNSEL  
*SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL Event Code: 5550*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

07/13/2018 AMENDED/SUPPLEMENTED ANSWER  
*DEFENDANTS' FIRST AMENDED ANSWER Event Code: 5152*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

07/13/2018  
MOTION  
*DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER THE TEXAS CITIZENS PARTICIPATION ACT*  
*Event Code: 5265*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

07/19/2018 NOTICE  
*NOTICE OF HEARING Event Code: 5554*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

07/23/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*LETTER FROM: MARK C. ENOCH Event Code: 5414*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/10/2018 ASSIGNMENT BY PRESIDING JUDGE  
*ASSIGNMENT BY PRESIDING JUDGE Event Code: 5423*

08/16/2018  
LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*LETTER FROM SCOTT H JENKINS JUDGE 53RD DISTRICT COURT TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS*  
*Event Code: 5414*

08/17/2018  
MOTION  
*PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS FOR INTENTIONAL DESTRUCTION OF EVIDENCE*  
*Event Code: 5265*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

## MOTION

*PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY IN AID OF PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' TCPA MOTION* Event Code: 5265

Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

08/21/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR

*LETTER FROM MARK C. ENOCH Event Code: 5414*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/23/2018

## RESPONSE

*DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY* Event Code: 5153

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/27/2018

## RESPONSE

*PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER THE TEXAS  
CITIZENS PARTICIPATION ACT Event Code: 5153*

Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

08/27/2018

# AFFIDAVIT

*SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER  
THE TEXAS CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ACT Event Code: 5401*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/27/2018

AMENDED/SUPPLEMENTED ANSWER

*DEFENDANTS' FIRST AMENDED RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AND  
MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND DEFENDANTS ' MOTION FOR SANCTIONS Event  
Code: 5152*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/28/2018

**!AFFIDAVIT**

*SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVITS IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER  
THE TEXAS CITIZENS PARTICIPATION ACT Event Code: 5482*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/28/2018

**AFFIDAVIT**

*SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' FIRST AMENDED RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SANCTIONS Event Code: 5482*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/29/2018

**OBJECTIONS**

*DEFENDANTS' OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S EVIDENCE SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER THE TEXAS CITIZENS PARTICIPATION ACT Event Code: 5156*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/29/2018

**OTHER/NOTICE**

*DEFENDANTS' FIRST SUPPLEMENT TO MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER THE TEXAS CITIZENS PARTICIPATION ACT Event Code: 5415*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/29/2018

**AFFIDAVIT**

*SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' FIRST AMENDED RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SANCTIONS Event Code: 5401*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/29/2018 **AMENDED/SUPPLEMENTED ANSWER**

*DEFENDANTS' SECOND AMENDED ANSWER Event Code: 5152*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/30/2018

**MOTION**

*DEFENDANTS' SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER THE TEXAS CITIZENS PARTICIPATION ACT Event Code: 5265*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/30/2018

AFFIDAVIT

*SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' FIRST AMENDED RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SANCTIONS Event Code: 5401*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/30/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR

*LETTER Event Code: 5414*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

08/30/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR

*LETTER/EMAIL/CORR Event Code: 5414*

08/31/2018

ORDER

*ORDER ON PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DISCOVERY IN AID O F PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' TCPA MOTION Event Code: 8225*

Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

09/11/2018

OTHER/NOTICE

*DEFENDANTS' REQUEST FOR RULINGS ON TIMELY FILED OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S EVIDENCE Event Code: 5415*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

09/14/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR

*LETTER FROM MARK C. ENOCH Event Code: 5414*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

09/25/2018

OTHER/NOTICE

*DEFENDANTS' SECOND RENEWED REQUEST FOR RULINGS ON TIMELY FILED OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S EVIDENCE Event Code: 5415*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

09/28/2018

MOTION

*DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE/CONFIDENTIALITY ORDER Event Code: 5265*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/01/2018 MTN:MODIFY, REDUCE, ENFO,CONTE  
*PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR CONTEMPT UNDER RULE 215 Event Code: 5261*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

10/02/2018 NOTICE OF APPEAL  
*DF-1 NOTICE OF APPEAL Event Code: 5553*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/02/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*LETTER TO JUDGE JENKINS Event Code: 5414*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/03/2018 ASM:CV MOTION FOR CONTEMPT  
*Event Code: 635 Adjmt Amount: 80.00*  
Party: Plaintiff HESLIN, NEIL

10/03/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR  
*LETTER FROM 3RD COA Event Code: 5414*

10/10/2018 DESIGNATION CLRKS/REPORTR REC  
*DF-1 DESIGNATION FOR COURT REPORTER'S RECORD Event Code: 5409*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/10/2018 DESIGNATION CLRKS/REPORTR REC  
*DF-1 DESIGNATION FOR CLERK'S RECORD Event Code: 5409*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/10/2018 ASM:CLERKS RECORD  
*Event Code: 939 Adjmt Amount: 3192.00*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/10/2018  
MSF:BILL OF COST FOR CLERK REC  
*Form Number Bo3-2686 Issued by HAMILTON LYNDIA SELINA (102) MSF:BILL OF COST FOR C*  
*Event Code: 102*  
Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

10/11/2018 CLERKS RECORD TRANSMITTAL  
*FILED CLERK'S RECORD BY 3RE COA / HAND DELIVERED Event Code: 5606*

10/11/2018  
CLERKS RECORD TRANSMITTAL  
*FILED BY 3RD COA EXHIBITS TO BE INCLUDED WITH CLERK'S RECORD /// HAND*  
*DELIVERED Event Code: 5606*

10/15/2018 LETTER/EMAIL/CORR

*LETTER TO COURT OPERATIONS OFFICER Event Code: 5414*

Party: Defendant JONES, ALEX E

*1-50 of 372*

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## Hearings

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04/25/2022 **CANCELED Jury Trial** (9:01 AM)

*Passed by Court*

10/20/2022 **CANCELED Setting Date** (9:00 AM)

*Passed by Court*